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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINAT TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, *provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| Application Number | 10/646,711 | |
|------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Filing Date | August 25, 2003 | |
| First Named Inventor | Hiroshi NOMURA | |
| Group Art Unit | 2851 | |
| Examiner Name | David M. GRAY | |
| Attorney Docket Number | P23684 | |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was flied prior to May 29,2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

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| 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 a. | | | | | | |
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| authorized to charge any fees required by this paper, including the RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e), any extension of time fees (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) necessary to render the RCE timely, and any | | | | | | |
| suspension | fee or credit any overpayments, to De | posit Account | No. <u>19-0089</u> | | | |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED | | | | | | |
| Name (Print/Type) | Bruce H. Bernstein | Registration | No. | 29,027 | | |
| Ciamatura | L. A | hill K | | | | |
| Signature Will. Bosh Reg. No. 44,550 6 13/65 | | | | | | |
| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION | | | | | | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as a first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop RCE, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: | | | | | | |
| Name (Print/Type) | | T | <u> </u> | | | |
| Signature | | Date | | | | |
| ALLONDE CZEUNIEL ANANANA | 10646711 | | | | | |